

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Tuesday, February 14, 2006 10:30 a.m. Room 352 State Capitol Building, Lansing

Representative Nitz, Chair of the House Standing Committee on Agriculture, and Representative Gaffney, Chair of the House Standing Committee on Health Policy, called the Joint House Committee meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law, Sheltroun. (10/11)

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Newell. (1/11)

Representative Proos made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of January 17, 2006, supported by Representative Sheltroun. No objections being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to accept the minutes as presented.

Representative Hune made a motion to excuse absent members, supported by Representative Kathleen Law. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

The purpose of the Joint House Committee meeting was to receive testimony regarding Avian Influenza Preparedness and Michigan's preparedness in the event of a pandemic.

The following individuals spoke to the Committees and answered questions for Committee members:

Douglas O'Brien, Regional Director – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region Five

Janet Olszewski, Director, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH)

Rebecca Humphries, Director, Michigan Department of Natural Resources MDNR)

Mitch Irwin, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA)

Mark Hansen of MSU Extension and Richard Fulton of the MSU Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health submitted written testimony, but did not wish to testify.

Karlene Belyea of the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association submitted written testimony, but did not wish to testify.

Subsequent to discussion, Chair Nitz declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 12:11 p.m.

Representative Neal Nitz, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk
(517) 373-8538

